

Proposed Ordinance  
of the  
City of Minneapolis

By Benson, Schiff and Lilligren

**Amending Title 7, Chapter 142 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Civil Rights: Civil Rights and Domestic Partnerships.**

The City Council of The City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

Section 1. That Section 142.30 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

**142.30 Registration of domestic partners.** (a) The city clerk shall accept an application to register as domestic partners from persons who state in such application that they meet the definition of domestic partners set out in section 142.20 (a) ~~and that they meet the eligibility requirements provided in section 142.40.~~ Subsequent changes in address shall be promptly reported to the city clerk.

(b) The city clerk shall charge an application fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) for the registration of {a} domestic partnership and shall charge a reasonable fee per document for providing certified copies of registrations, amendments or notices of termination. There shall be no charge for filing amendments or notices of termination.

(c) The city clerk shall provide each domestic partner with a registration certificate. The registration certificate shall not be issued prior to the third working day after the date of application.

(d) This application and certificate may be used as evidence of the existence of a domestic partners relationship.

(e) The city clerk shall keep a record of all registrations of domestic partnership, amendments to registrations and notices of termination received by the city clerk. The records shall be maintained so that amendments and notices of termination are filed with the registration of domestic partnership to which they pertain.

(f) The application and amendments thereto, the registration certificate, and termination notices shall constitute government data and will be subject to disclosure pursuant to the terms of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.

(g) For purposes of Chapters 139 and 142, upon production of valid, government-issued documentation and only to the extent of the rights and responsibilities established therein or elsewhere in the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances, the terms “domestic partnership” and “registered domestic partnership” shall include, in addition to domestic partnerships registered with the City of Minneapolis, and regardless of

whether partners in either circumstance have sought further registration with the City of Minneapolis:

(1) any person who has a currently registered domestic partnership with a governmental body pursuant to state, local, or other law authorizing such registration. The term domestic partnership should be construed broadly to include same-sex civil unions or other such same-sex unions in which two (2) same-sex individuals are committed to one another to the same extent as married persons are to each other, except for the traditional marital status and solemnities; and

(2) marriages that would be legally recognized as a contract of lawful marriage in another local, state, or foreign jurisdiction.

Section 2. That Section 142.40 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed:

**~~142.40. Eligibility for registration.~~** ~~The city clerk shall only accept applications for registration of a domestic partnership from those persons: (1) in a partnership where both persons reside in the city; or (2) in a partnership in which at least one person works primarily in the City of Minneapolis, either as self-employed or for an employer; or (3) in a partnership in which at least one person is an employee of the City of Minneapolis.~~